

**BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE**

There was a regular meeting for the above-reference subcommittee held at **6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2013** in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Washington and Banks. Also present were: Councilor Rivers, Chief Paul Hammick – Bloomfield Police Department, Chief William Riley - Center Fire District, Pat Braun - EMS and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

Absent was: Chief Robert Farmer, Blue Hills Fire District

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

This item was deferred to the next scheduled meeting (February 11, 2013) for approval.

**POLICE**

*Crime Report*

Chief Hammick reported that there was an upward swing in crime statistics for the month of December, 2012. The department had extra patrols for the holiday season, which caused this specialized increase in reporting. There was also an increase of 35% in officer initiated activity, which continues to be a positive response in the community.

*Community Services*

On December 18, 2012, a graduation was held for the Citizens Police Academy.

It was also noted that a 12 year old young man received a Citizen's award for witnessing a burglary that led to several arrests.

*Personnel Updates*

Mr. Robert Gomez declined the offer to become a Bloomfield Police officer and decided to join the New Britain Police Department after negotiation for a higher pay rate and benefits. There were three other recruits who began the Police Academy and training process on January 2.

There were two dispatchers who retired after 10 and 16 years respectively.

The department remains aggressive in the hiring process for vacant positions. Currently, there are 2 dispatcher and 3 sworn officer positions available. Due to attrition, the department will focus on recruitment of certified officers above the mandated number of 50 sworn officers for overlap in coverage.

Councilor Washington inquired about assuring that recruits remain in Bloomfield once they are trained, due to the expense to the town.

Chief Hammick explained the decisions of recent state statutes regarding mandates for lateral transfers and sworn officers.

It was also noted that both School Resource Officers have returned to their duties at the schools as often as possible, when coverage in Patrol is not needed due to shortages in manpower in the field.

Chief Hammick reported that a security analysis was completed with the Board of Education, following the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT. There was additional discussion regarding the appropriateness to have police personnel in the elementary schools on a regular basis.

## **FIRE**

Chief Riley of the Center Fire District reported that the new engine has been received and is being outfitted with equipment. This engine should be online by the week of January 21, 2013.

Chief Riley also reported that CREC-Metropolitan Learning Center (MLC) has installed an internal antenna to have communication throughout the building for emergency personnel.

## **EMS**

The EMS committee met in November to discuss scholarship assistance to take EMT classes. The committee members will begin to discuss the application process to simplify awards.

The December, 2012 was cancelled. The next scheduled meeting will be held on January 23, 2013.

The end of the year financial reports, indicate that the BVA Fund slightly exceeded donations from prior year.

A number of thank you notes were received about the great service of the BVA.

Mr. Braun also indicated that volunteers of the BVA supported fellow volunteers and paramedics in the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy with flowers and other items.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Councilor Washington, seconded by Councilor Banks and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

